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Bhattacharya 3-5-8-1-25

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): D. Bhattacharya et al.
Case: 3-5-8-1-25
Serial No.: 10/768,771
Filing Date: January 30, 2004
Group: 2832
Examiner: Karl D. Easthom

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

Signature:

Lisa L. Vulpis

Date: November 15, 2004

Title: Improved Semiconductor Resistor

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is the following document relating to the above-identified patent application:

(1) Response to Restriction Requirement.

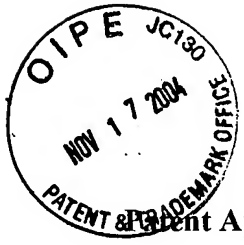
There is no additional fee due in conjunction with the response. In the event of any non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or to credit **Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0762** as required to correct the error.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph B. Ryan

Date: November 15, 2004

Joseph B. Ryan
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

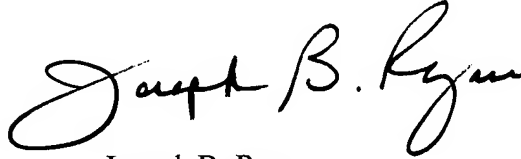
In an Office Action dated October 13, 2004, the Examiner required restriction of claims 1-20 to one of the following two groups of claims: (i) claims 1-17 (Group I); and (ii) claims 18-20 (Group II). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction for at least the reasons given below.

Applicants submit that the apparatus set forth in independent claims 1 and 13 and the method set forth in independent claim 18 are of such similar character as to essentially eliminate the necessity for a separate search and/or classification. Accordingly, Applicants assert that, in the interest of conservation of resources for the Patent Office as well as the Applicant, the claims of Group I and Group II should be considered together. Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction requirement in the present application is respectfully solicited.

Notwithstanding the above traversal, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-17, for prosecution on the merits.

It is believed that there is no fee due in conjunction with the present response. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0762** as required to correct the error.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph B. Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" being more prominent and the last name "Ryan" following in a similar style.

Date: November 15, 2004

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